

♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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October 1995

School Addition Planned

(Lamoine) — An informational meeting and straw vote are planned in October concerning a proposed addition to the Lamoine Consolidated School. For several months, now, a building committee which is advising the School Board has been working jointly with an architect analyzing needs, developing design, for an addition to the school. The last major construction to the school was completed 20 years ago, and the debt was retired last November.

Lamoine is atop a state protected priority list to receive funds to renovate and add to its school. Before the State Board of Education may release funds, the Town must approve of a plan. State taxpayers have already funded \$600 million for similar projects.

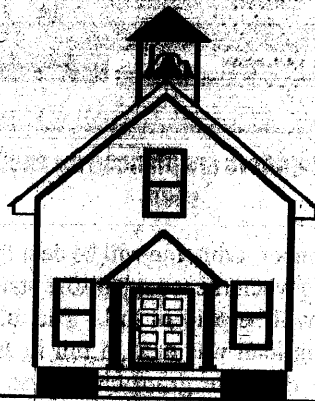
Is There A Need?

Proponents of the addition prepared a workbook to assess the need which states: "Lamoine has the dubious distinction of being the fastest growing town in Hancock County....We anticipate continued steady increases over the foreseeable future. This proposed addition plan contains provisions for future expansion."

Originally, the school was built to house 225 students in 1974. Since that time, the average yearly increase in enrollment has been 2 students. The past two years saw a 6.9% decline in overall population from a high of 195 in 1993. The plan as presented in August of this year calls for 190 students to be housed, well below the original design capacity.

Populations

1975 - 142	1977 - 130
1980 - 141	1983 - 140
1985 - 138	1988 - 151
1990 - 145	1992 - 179
1994 - 187	now - 181



Mandates

Since 1974, state and federal mandates for space needs, especially for special education have trickled down from Washington & Augusta.

(see Straw Vote page 2)

Comprehensive Plan nears completion

(Lamoine) — In a few months you may be voting on a new comprehensive plan for the town. This is a very important document for the people who run your town government. It will provide the basis for decisions, and the direction in which the town will aim to travel for the next decade.

The plan has been in the works for a few years. Lamoine was awarded a state grant to develop a new plan that not only looks at where we are going, but where we have been. Charles Major has led a dedicated band of townspeople who have worked to develop this document. Committee members include Mary Ann Orzel, Don Cooper, Joan Bragdon, Margaret Hill, and Anne Stocking.

Public meetings will be held on November 16 & 18 to work up any final changes needed before sending the document for final State approval. You will receive a copy of the action portion of the Comprehensive Plan at your home. We await your comments.

Hearings Nov 16 & 18
at 7:00 pm

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Superintendent resigns page 2
Tax Rate up slightly page 6

Straw Vote for school addition

(from page 1)

Portable classrooms have been added in the past few years, but the building committee has not proposed any additional portable space during its planning process. Some in town have expressed a desire to pursue portables as a low cost alternative.

The latest version of the planned addition and renovation came with a projected cost exceeding \$3-million. A plan will be presented at a public informational meeting planned for October 10, 1995 at the school gym. A straw vote on whether to proceed with the school addition and renovation project will be taken on October 24th at the school. Both meetings will

Info Meeting
October 24th

Straw Vote
October 24th

start at 7:00 PM and attendance is vital. The straw vote will tell the State if Lamoine is ready to proceed.

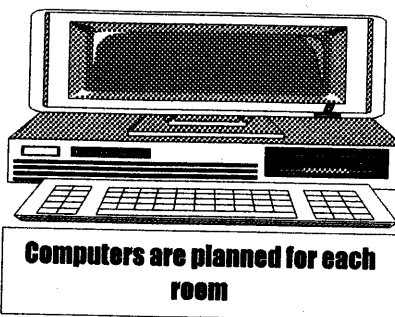
Besides education, the school will also serve as a community center. The space allocation report outlines some of those uses. *"Concerts & performances by school children draw many attendees. Basketball games are popular events, as are art shows, plays...and many other events. The Fire Department utilizes the school for sup-*

pers. PATRONS sponsors fundraisers.

In the past few years, the town has voted to purchase land around the school that will allow for expansion. The first purchase, on the east side of the school lot, will allow for a lot more parking. The second purchase, directly behind the school lot, will allow for new athletic fields, and a restructuring of the physical plant's setup. Some feel that could also allow more portable classroom space to be located behind the school. The roughly \$31,000 spent to buy the land may be reimbursed by the state as part of the construction project.

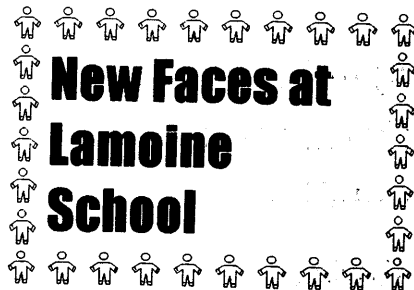
While the state funding formula assures that a percentage of the debt is covered, the impact could be significant on tax bills.

As of the end of this



November, Lamoine will be debt free. That's when the town hall/fire station loan will be paid in full. The dump closing loan was paid in full in June when the state grant check was received. The final payment on the school project from 1974 was made last fall.

It's important for you to attend the information meeting and the straw vote. The plan we send to Augusta, if the straw vote passes will be presented to the public at that time! A referendum would follow in March 1996.



(Lamoine) — Day one of school was September 6th. Besides the new kindergarten class, there are some new workers at the Lamoine School. They include Custodian Patty Murphy, Head Cook Barbara Stratton, Phys. Ed. Teacher Michael Hammer, Guidance Counselor Charisse Stanko, Librarian Margot Haertel, and Ed Tech Christine Brown.

School started with 181 students, which is down slightly from last year's population. Much of the drop can be attributed to graduation of a fairly large 8th grade class last year, and a kindergarten that numbers about 16 this year.

Superintendent Cyr leaves, Interim Hired

(Ellsworth) — Union 92 Superintendent, Michael Cyr, resigned effective the end of August. Mr. Cyr took a job with the Sherman Station and Patten SAD. He cited difficulty meeting virtually every night with the 8 towns that make up our Union.

Former Deputy Education Commissioner Omar Norton filled in during September. Richard Sawyer was hired in late September to act as a long term interim until School Union 92 decides on its future makeup.

Meeting & Other Dates for next 3 months

October

- 2 - School Board 6:30 pm
- 3 - Planning Board 7pm
- 9 - Office Closed (Columbus Day)
- 10 - School Addition Info Meeting
7:00 pm at school
- 11 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 17 - Board of Assessors 7:00 pm
- 21 - Fireman's Supper @ School
- 24 - Straw Vote on School
Addition 7:00 @ School
- 25 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 31 - Taxes Due

November

- 6 - School Board 6:30 pm
- 7 - Election Day (State & Local)
- 8 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 14 - Planning Board 7:00 pm
- 16 - Comp. Plan Hearing 7:00 pm
- 18 - Comp. Plan Hearing 7:00 pm
- 21 - Assessors 7:00 pm
- 22 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 23 - Office Closed - Thanksgiving
- 25 - Office Closed - Vacation

December

- 4 - School board 6:30 pm
- 5 - Planning Board 7pm
- 6 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 19 - Board of Assessors 7:00 pm
- 20 - Selectmen 6:15 pm
- 25 - 27 Office Closed (vacation)

In Memory Of

Harvey Davis 8/18/95
William DesIsles 7/31/95
Leola Sawyer 2/6/95
June Knowles 9/18/95

Calendar For Next Quarter

(Town Hall) — The calendar to the left is a rough outline for the next three months. As time goes on, meeting dates will fill in. Monthly calendars are posted at the Town Hall and transfer station.

Note the Saturday after Thanksgiving and the two days after Christmas that the town office is closed. This is to accommodate vacation for the Town Clerk and the Administrative Assistant.

The Budget Committee Schedule has not yet been set, but we expect they will start meeting on Monday Nights in Mid-October. The Appeals Board, if needed, generally meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

The Board of Assessors will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to deal with assessing issues and do the assessing work.



Births Since the last Lamoine Quarterly:

Dominique Hessert
7/20/95
Sarah Emily Anderson
9/11/95

Babies born this year will be 4 years old + when we welcome the new century!

Town Meeting to be next March

(Lamoine) — The Board of Selectmen has decided that the annual Town Meeting will revert back to March starting in 1996. The feeling is that more people might participate in the open town meeting on Saturday as the weather is likely to present fewer family and home time opportunities.

The move means speeding up the budget and annual report process somewhat. The budget committee will soon set its schedule.

Because of the elections ordinance set last year, new Selectmen and School Board members elected at the next town meeting will take over in March, instead of waiting until July. One member of each board is up for election. Voting will be March 5th (Tuesday), Meeting on the 9th (Saturday).

Correction

An alert Bob Abelson pointed out that the last newsletter claimed that children born this year would start school in 2,000 and graduate in 2,018. No, we don't have a crop of dumb kids, just an editor who doesn't add all that well. They'll actually graduate (with luck) in the year 2012, unless of course someone decides we ought to have 18 years of school in the meantime.



Fire Department Needs New Members!

(Lamoine) — The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department needs some more new members. The department especially needs people who are able to respond during the daytime hours, and who might be located near town between 8am and 5pm.

Like most other departments in Maine, our fire department has suffered from a shortage of daytime volunteers. The problem is more severe in other towns, but there have been some calls recently when only four people have been able to respond.

Chief George "Skip" Smith says volunteers don't necessarily have to be ready to run into burning buildings. People to direct traffic, run the pumper, drive trucks, and perform various other functions other than actual fire-fighting are desperately needed.

The fire department meets on Thursday Nights most of the year. If you can give some time, please report to the fire house on a Thursday, or talk with Town Administrator & Assistant Chief Stu Marckoon at the Town Office

Busy Late Summer for Fire Dept. as dry weather rules

(Lamoine) — In late August, Governor Angus King issued a ban on outdoor open flame burning. The ban excluded backyard barbecues on gas and charcoal grills. It was the first such ban in nearly 20-years. Many folks in this area who remember back to 1947 say its as dry as the year that much of this area burned.

The Lamoine Fire Department saw its share of action in early September.

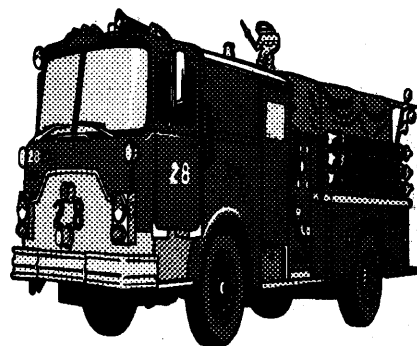
The biggest fire was in Trenton where nearly 2 acres burned when sparks from a grinder ignited the grass and woods near a home. A van was destroyed in the fire. The Trenton Fire Department quickly called for help from Lamoine, Ellsworth and the Maine Forest Service, and the fire was kept small despite the extremely dry conditions.

A small forest fire was reported late at night on September 3rd on the Buttermilk Road. A 30 square foot area was spotted on fire by neighbors who happened to be headed home at 11:00 that evening. Thankfully, the weather was cool and the wind calm. Lamoine had 19 firefighters and 4 trucks on scene within 10 minutes. 900 gallons of water was put on the fire, which put it out effectively, and kept it from going underground. The cause is not known. Another call the day before with a report of smoke from Hancock turned out to be a lobster boat work-

ing in the bay.

In August, the lone in town call came on Route 184 and Asa's Lane where a resident's lawn mower caught fire. He had attempted to use a home fire extinguisher to put out the flames, but to no avail. Water was used to cool down the remains of the mower, which was a total loss.

Lamoine assisted Trenton on a house fire at Majestic Point where a summer home suffered extensive damage. A young man baby-sitting three children at the home was credited with rescuing them when he heard the flames. The cause of that fire was not immediately determined. Lamoine sent its tanker and the new pumper.



Fire Department Supper Set for October 21st

(Lamoine) — The annual Fireman's supper will be held at the Lamoine Consolidated School on Saturday, October 21st at 5:00 pm. Firemen will serve clam chowder, casseroles, baked beans, rolls and pie. Tickets will be sold by fire department members on the 15th or earlier, and they are available at the door.

Money raised from the supper goes to help equip the fire department.

125th Birthday Party a rousing Success

(Lamoine) — When the town fathers (and mothers) figured out that 1995 would be Lamoine's 125th anniversary, it was decided that a celebration would be in order. The idea would be an appropriate way to mark the anniversary, a chance for the history of Lamoine to be emphasized, and to give some of the community service organizations in town a vehicle for making money. Even before the big weekend in August, all three goals had been accomplished!

Starting with \$500 voted during town meeting in 1994, a committee of 9 put together a fantastic celebration. They enlisted many others in town, and the idea came together for the weekend beginning August 11th.

The first event was the tour of homes of Lamoine. That attracted some large crowds, and was the biggest money maker by far for the town committee. Several owners of the oldest homes in town were generous enough to open up their homes for a tour and some history lessons. The two churches in town also participated in the tours.

Friday evening saw a chowder supper by the Lamoine Fire Department at the school. The supper netted about \$700 for the firemen.

After dinner, a karaoke street dance was held in front of the fire station. For the first time in Lamoine's memory, young and old literally danced in the street, having a great time, some meeting

for the first time. It was a sure sign the weekend would be a unifying event.

Saturday dawned with cloudy skies, but no threat of rain until late in the day. It was perfect for the road race. Participation was fairly small because of the annual Schoodic Road race in Winter Harbor during that community's centennial celebration. Bill Pinkham and Robin Emery-Rappa, two Lamoine residents and two of Maine's premiere runners put the race together, and it went without a hitch. The overall winners were Nick Walters and Jo Cooper, although there were several categories.

Next came the opening ceremony. Reverend Ellis "Sam" Holt was the keynote speaker. He told about Lamoine's ability to adapt to the times by relating the



story about the parsonage and its many functions from fish house to store. A flowering crab was presented to the school afterward, then the parade started. It was the biggest parade Lamoine has seen in a long, long time. The Shriners were active participants, sending several groups. The Lamoine community band pro-

vided music. All five fire trucks from Lamoine, plus a small contingent from Trenton brought up the rear. Betty Harding was in charge of putting it all together.

The parade ended at the East Lamoine Church and Coyne Field. Betsy Arntzen put on old fashioned games which drew a large crowd. Supper came courtesy of the Lamoine Grange, which nearly ran out of food. The Grange Hall was packed for some old time movies supplied by Northeast Historic Film. Dawn Hunnewell was able to obtain a State Grant for the movies, but plans for a piano player fell through.

A church service was held at the East Lamoine Church on Sunday morning. A family bike ride proceeded from Shore Road to the State Park afterwards. By the looks of all the bikes at the Park, it was a big success. The 125th Committee put together a flotilla of local boat owners to offer rides around the bay, and to view the Coast Guard Cutter anchored offshore. Several hundred people took advantage of the sunny day.

At 2:00, the festivities at the park began. Jim Tweedie reviewed some of his memories growing up in Lamoine. A chorus of residents belted out some great old songs under the direction of Tom Wallace. The Lamoine Community Band (made up mostly of the Ellsworth Concert Band) followed under the direction of Jim Trembley. The state park received a lilac bush to plant near their entrance. They were pleased with the turnout which was estimated near 1,000.

The weekend closed out at the town hall with birthday cake for all who showed up. Deirdre Fennelly and Beth Black made the cake with the logo on it. There was just enough to go around for the 200 people who turned out. Warren Whitaker fascinated the crowd with his stories about old Lamoine.

Commercial Building Boom for Lamoine

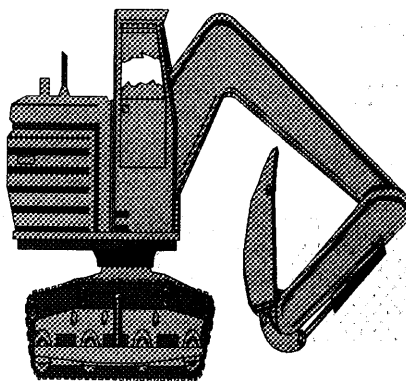
(Lamoine) — Don't look now, but Lamoine has started to sprout some commercial business. The first commercial building in many years was approved by the Planning Board this summer. Clifton Bradford is currently constructing a new garage for Bradford's Auto and Towing on the Jordan River Road. The project was approved unanimously by the board.

Rumors of a new store are true. The developers of a small convenience store will meet with the Planning Board in October to unveil their preliminary plan. Under the Lamoine Building and Land Use code, there will have to be a public hearing on the application before final action can be taken.

If it is approved, the store would be located in the gravel pit at



the head of the Jordan River Road off Route 184. Major work to the entrance to that area would be required so traffic from both directions could see entering cars. The developers say they hope to begin construction in November.



Gravel Pit Owners to work with Planning Board for change

(Lamoine) — Owners and operators of gravel pits have agreed to come up with suggested changes to the gravel extraction ordinance in an effort to assist the Planning Board. The two sides met during the September 5th Planning Board meeting in an effort to better protect the town from rampant pit development.

The Planning Board said it had three major goals in mind.

- ◆ Protect Groundwater in the aquifer underneath the pits
- ◆ Provide for restoration of the unused portions of gravel pits still in operation
- ◆ Deal with noise complaints raised by residents from operations and truck traffic.

After the meeting, the pit owners decided to meet to come up with some workable ideas for revising the ordinance. Ordinance revisions that would have proven very costly to the gravel pit operations in town were soundly rejected by voters last May during a town meeting referendum.

Summer Construction in Lamoine busy

Building Permits Issued	
Name	Type
Ralph Murphy	entry
Thomas Lanks	deck
Richard Arnold	steps
Gary Eaton	home
Robert Schust	residence
Bonnie Moretto	shed/barn
Robert Saffel	garage/shop
Richard Hering	addition
Aubrey Davis	garage
Carlton Johnson	porch/add'n
Donna Thorburn	residence
Richard Haff	addition
Clifton Bradford	shop expand
Bill Davis	residence
Michael Walls	barn
Dana Young	garage
Philip Richter	home/barn
G. Donaldson	storage
Bryon Pinkham	addition
David Mouland	shed add'n

Tax Rate Up a Bit

(Lamoine) — Tax bills were mailed out Friday, September 15th. They are due October 31st. The tax rate as set by the Board of Assessors is up .75 mils to 9.95, or \$9.95 per thousand dollars valuation. Total valuation is \$90,950,300.

Summer Road Work Season a busy one

(Lamoine) — After several go rounds with the budget, design, and bidding, the Seal Point Road construction project was pretty much completed in early August. The hill at the lower end of the road is rebuilt and paved, and the drainage on the road greatly improved. A portion of the paving will have to be completed in the Spring because of mix up in communication with the paving contractor over where to start.

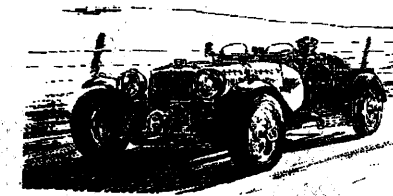
Harold MacQuinn, Inc. did the work on Seal Point Road, and the Selectmen were greatly pleased with the cooperation they showed in meeting the town's needs.

Cos Cob Avenue Repaired

Residents at the lower end of Cos Cob Avenue have waited about 20 years for that portion of the road to be resurfaced. Jay Fowler & Son was contracted to do the work, and had the road bed prepared in a days time for paving. The job looks nice and residents say it is much easier to make the hill. In sweeping Cos Cob, we found that the old surface on the upper portion needs some resurfacing work, which will be put into next year's budget.

Needle's Eye

The town built quite a bit of money into the budget for Needle's Eye Road to repair drainage. Richard King, Inc. did the work, improving the ditches on one section of the road, cleaning out a culvert that had started to heave, and re-setting and insulating a culvert that has



been a perennial problem. This road will require constant attention for drainage work in the next few years to bring it up to par.

Birchlawn

Drainage ditches at the upper end of Birchlawn Drive (Off Buttermilk Rd.) had a problem with standing water, even with the dry weather. The ditches were cleaned out by Richard King's crew, and positive drainage established, hopefully eliminating this problem.

Work in Progress

As of mid-September, the town had contracted out for ditching projects on Asa's Lane, Buttermilk Road, Lorimer Road, and Mill Road. The projects should be complete before the snow falls. In the Spring, the Selectmen will revisit the budget to find out what other drainage work can be done.

Drainage is a key to road maintenance. Lamoine has been pretty lucky in that the roads are fairly well constructed (compared to Route 184), and maintenance to the ditches should keep the roads in good shape. An aggressive program of sealing the cracks in recently surfaced roads should pay off down the road. We put sealant in Seal Point Road, Shore Road, and Walker Road this summer, preserving those surfacing jobs for the next several years to come.

Road Numbering Completed

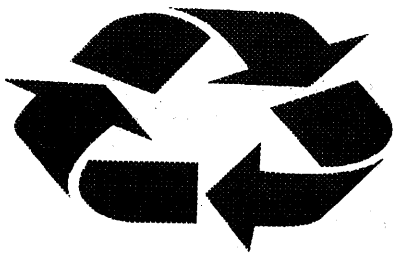
(Lamoine) — The Ellsworth Area Jaycees have completed the measuring work for assigning new numbers to all the roads in town. This was a project that began in 1993, and it took until September of 1995 just to complete the road work.

Now, the tedious task begins of assigning names to all of the previously unnamed fire roads, and assigning a number to each home. The telephone company and post office will be kept abreast of the situation. The Historical Society has offered to assist in assigning names to as many as 50 currently unnamed (mostly dirt) roads. In addition, the town office has received suggestions from several folks who live on the roads for names, and there have been some great ideas.

This issue will most likely be voted upon at the March town meeting. There will be a few meetings to iron out the most controversial naming ideas, hopefully to the satisfaction of all. We thank the Jaycees for their fine work.

Voter List Purged

(Lamoine) — If you got a card in the mail from Registrar of Voters Betty Harding asking if you are still around, it's part of the effort to update the voter list. All who did not vote last November were sent a card. Those that were returned by the post office will, for the most part, move to an inactive list. Before the cards went out, we had 1,170 registered voters. By purging the list, Lamoine may drop to under 1,000 active voters.



Recycling Future Vote November 7

(Lamoine) — Residents will be asked whether they wish for the town to continue to be a member of Coastal Recycling. Lamoine was one of the founding members of the multi-town recycling cooperative. The cost of recycling through Coastal has decreased for the past few years, and this summer, Lamoine received a check for \$2,229 for unanticipated income from Coastal.

Still, the cost of recycling is higher than it might have to be. At least one private contractor has offered to pick up all of Lamoine's recyclables for \$1,380 per year. The town budgeted \$9,867 for operations and transport. This did not factor in any income from Coastal, which is not guaranteed. If the change were made, Lamoine would

save about \$8,500.

The Board of Selectmen have ordered a referendum vote on the statewide election day, November 7th. The question would have Lamoine withdraw from Coastal Recycling effective June 30th, 1996 and authorize the Selectmen to negotiate a contract in the best interest of the town.

Public hearings on this issue will be held on October 11th and October 25th during the Selectmen's meetings. Anyone who has an opinion on this is welcome to let their views be known.

This is an extremely important issue for the future of Lamoine's recycling program, and for the budget in general. **Please, speak out at the public hearings, and Vote November 7th!**

Voting Hours
Tuesday,
November 7
10 am - 8 pm

Cable TV Firm Sold



(Rockland) — The cable television company serving Lamoine, Hancock, and Sullivan is being sold. United Video Cablevision, which is based in Rockland, is selling its holdings in Maine and Ohio to FrontierVision. Customers of United Video should not notice any immediate changes once the sale is finalized. The sale is expected to be closed by the end of 1995.

Town Hall Work

(Lamoine) — The painting on the town hall sign was done by Nell Donaldson. Jay Fowler & Sons put in a new lawn this summer, and it's growing nicely. Richard King, Inc. should be building a message board for the town hall sign in the next few weeks. Sinclair Builders repaired some of the broken siding on the building this summer.

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